

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Favorable reconsideration of this application as presently amended and in light of the following discussion is respectfully requested.

Claims 1-45 are presently active; Claims 1, 9, 22, 23, 25, 30, 32, 43, and 44 having been amended by way of the present amendment.

In the outstanding Office Action, Figure 2 was objected to for not having a legend such as "Prior Art". Claims 22, 23, 32, 33, 43, and 44 were objected to. Claims 1-4, 6, 8-14, 24-27, and 30-35 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by Lee et al (U.S. Pat. No. 6,362,892). Claims 5, 15-21, 28-29, 36-45, and 45 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Lee et al (U.S. Pat. No. 6,362,892), hereinafter referred to as Lee '892, in view of Lee et al (U.S. Pat. No. 6,628,413), hereinafter referred to as Lee '413. Claim 7 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Lee '892 in view of Fischer et al. (6,075,617), Ogawa (5,079,722), Lund (5,650,858), Beard et al. (6,615,297), Check, Jr. et al. (3,990,362), Roch (4,847,775), French et al. (6,396,594) and Patel et al. (5,566,278).

Firstly, Applicant acknowledges with appreciation the courtesy of Examiner Foster and Supervisory Examiner Moore to conduct an interview in this case on January 20, 2004.

Regarding the objection to the drawing, Figure 2 has been labeled with - -Background Art-- as discussed during the interview. Thus, it is respectfully submitted that the objection to the drawings has been overcome.

Regarding the objection to the claims, the claims have been amended as discussed during the interview to address the informalities noted in the outstanding Office Action. Thus, it is respectfully submitted that the objection to the claims has been overcome.

During the interview, the issues identified in the outstanding Office Action were discussed. In particular, Applicant's representative pointed out that original Claim 1 defined a print dialogue box and a printing information dialogue box, which the outstanding Office Action had identified as similar to the multi-layered user interface 41 and the summary bar 42 in Lee '892. Changes to the independent claims were discussed to clarify that the printing information dialogue box has a control to direct the print job.¹

Applicant's representative pointed out that Lee '892 discloses that the summary bar 42 appears while the print settings are being changed by the user and does not disclose that the summary bar has a control to direct the print job. Indeed, only the multi-layered user interface 41 in Lee '892 and not the summary bar 42 has a control to direct the print job. Accordingly, it is respectfully submitted that presently amended independent Claim 1, which defines a printing information dialogue box including a control to direct the print job, is not anticipated by Lee '892 and patentably defines over the applied prior art.² As noted on the Interview Summary Sheet, further search and consideration would be given upon receipt of an official amendment. Given this understanding, submitted herewith are those changes discussed during the interview.

Thus, given the above-noted reasons, it is respectfully submitted that independent Claim 1 and similarly independent Claims 9, 25, and 30 patentably define over the applied prior art. Accordingly, Claims 1, 9, 25, and 30 and the claims dependent therefrom are believed to patentably define over the applied prior art.

¹ As shown by way of example in Applicant's Figure 3, the printing information dialogue box includes a control to direct the print job (e.g., the "Continue" button 300, the "Cancel Print Job" button 302, and the "Modify" button 304).

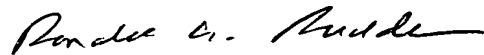
² Any argument that this feature would be obvious in view of Lee '892 is negated by the fact that the summary bar 42 in Lee '892 only appears when the print setting are being selected. In that case, adding a print control to the summary bar would merely be a redundant feature since the user can control the printing from the multi-layered user interface 41. Hence, there exists no need (i.e., no motivation) for a control on the summary bar 42.

Application No. 09/576,037
Reply to Office Action of December 8, 2003

Consequently, in view of the present amendment and in light of the above discussions, the outstanding grounds for rejection are believed to have been overcome. The application as amended herewith is believed to be in condition for formal allowance. An early and favorable action to that effect is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

OBLON, SPIVAK, McCLELLAND,
MAIER & NEUSTADT, P.C.



Customer Number
22850

Gregory J. Maier
Attorney of Record
Registration No. 25,599
Ronald A. Rudder, PhD
Registration No. 45,618

Tel: (703) 413-3000
Fax: (703) 413 -2220
(OSMMN 08/03)
GJM:RAR:clh

I:\ATTY\RAR\AMENDMENTS\52440128\AM.DOC